



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/895,561	06/29/2001	Niraj Gopal	CISCO-3475	6931

7590 12/01/2004

David B. Ritchie  
Thelen Reid & Priest LLP  
P. O. Box 640640  
San Jose, CA 95164

EXAMINER

LE, DIEU MINH T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2114	

DATE MAILED: 12/01/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/895,561

Applicant(s)

GOPAL, NIRAJ

Examiner

Dieu-Minh Le

Art Unit

2114

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 June 2004.  
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 22,23 and 26 is/are rejected.  
7) ☒ Claim(s) 24,25 and 27 is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.  
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_.

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed June 28, 2004 in application 09/895,561.
2. Claims 1-28 are again presented for examination.
3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
4. Claims 22-23 and 26 are again rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wanderer et al. (US Patent 5,491,796 hereafter referred to as Wanderer).

Applicant asserts the following:

- a. Wanderer fails to teach each and every element as set forth in the present claims.

Examiner respectfully transverses Applicant's argument as follows:

- a. First, It is not true that Wanderer failed to teach each and every element as set forth in the present claims. Examiner again would like to bring Applicant attention to Wanderer's

Art Unit: 2114

network management system [col. 2, lines 30-36]. Wanderer explicitly teaches the network management system capabilities monitoring, configuring, polling in order in ensuring data managed and distributed across the network.

Second, Wanderer further illustrated and described each and every network management elements/functionality in orderly, such as "protocol support", "configuration files", "component definition", "user interface functionality", "report views", "report view contents", "device configuration views", etc.... In the "device configuration views" capability [col. 14, lines 33 through col. 15, lines 11", Wanderer explicitly demonstrated the network management (i.e., SNMP) features step by step for checking the data validity, determining its operation success/failure, error message generation, etc... [col. 14, lines 33-61]. It is clearly and intuitively that Wanderer does teach Applicant's invention.

Third, it is clearly that Wanderer does teach claims 22, 23 and 26. This is because Wanderer does clearly demonstrate its network management system via its management information base (MIB) capability.

Art Unit: 2114

As per claim 22:

Wanderer explicitly teaches:

- A apparatus for checking the level of manageability support of a network device during the device development (i.e., SNMP) [fig. 1, abstract, col. 1, lines 9-11, col. 2, lines 31-36, and col. 14, lines 41-42], wherein any and all variables and values for the network device are indicated in an input file [col. 17, line 30] comprising of:
  - a fundamental variable checker for identifying the variable in the input file (i.e., MIB variables via GET function) [col. 14, lines 41-42, col. 17, lines 20-30, and col. 34, lines 50-53];
  - obtaining a value for the variable [col. 1, lines 31-49, col. 2, lines 59-61, col. 24, lines 44-54, and col. 34, lines 50-53];
  - checking the value against any and all VALID/INVALID values in the input file [col. 14, lines 42-43, col. 21, lines 30-36, col. 26, lines 36-46, and col. 27, lines 45-53]; and
  - generating an error message if the value of the variable is found to not be valid or to be invalid [col. 14, lines 50-51].

As per claim 23:

Wanderer further explicitly teaches:

- a dependent variable checker for identifying the variable and finding the variable to have a dependent variable (i.e., SNMP

Art Unit: 2114

MIB, MIB attributes, community string, associated variables, reference variables, local variables, dependence elements, dependent data) [col. 2, lines 35-63, col. 20, lines 42-46, col. 28, lines 46-49, col. 29, lines 51-53, col. 33, lines 29-39, and col. 37, lines 60-64];

- obtaining the values for both the variables [col. 1, lines 31-49, col. 2, lines 59-61, col. 24, lines 44-54, col. 28, lines 46-49, col. 29, lines 51-53, col. 33, lines 29-39, and col. 34, lines 50-53];

- checking their values against any and all VALID/INVALID values (i.e., MIB variables via GET function, SNMP MIB, MIB attributes, community string, associated variables, reference variables, local variables, dependence elements, dependent data) [col. 14, lines 41-42, col. 17, lines 20-30, col. 21, lines 30-36, col. 26, lines 36-46, col. 27, lines 45-53, col. 28, lines 46-49, col. 29, lines 51-53, col. 33, lines 29-39, and col. 34, lines 50-53];

- generating an error message if the values of the variables are found to not be valid or to be invalid [col. 14, lines 50-51].

As per claim 26:

Wanderer explicitly teaches:

Art Unit: 2114

- An apparatus for checking the level of manageability support of a network device during the device development (i.e., SNMP) [fig. 1, abstract, col. 1, lines 9-11, col. 2, lines 31-36, and col. 14, lines 41-42], wherein any and all variables and values for the network device are indicated in an input file [col. 17, line 30] comprising of:

- a dependent variable checker for identifying the variable and finding the variable to have a dependent variable (i.e., SNMP MIB, MIB attributes, community string, associated variables, reference variables, local variables, dependence elements, dependent data) [col. 2, lines 35-63, col. 20, lines 42-46, col. 28, lines 46-49, col. 29, lines 51-53, col. 33, lines 29-39, and col. 37, lines 60-64];

- obtaining the values for both the variables [col. 1, lines 31-49, col. 2, lines 59-61, col. 24, lines 44-54, col. 28, lines 46-49, col. 29, lines 51-53, col. 33, lines 29-39, and col. 34, lines 50-53];

- checking their values against any and all VALID/INVALID values (i.e., MIB variables via GET function, SNMP MIB, MIB attributes, community string, associated variables, reference variables, local variables, dependence elements, dependent data) [col. 14, lines 41-42, col. 17, lines 20-30, col. 21, lines 30-36, col. 26, lines 36-46, col. 27, lines 45-53, col. 28, lines 46-49,

Art Unit: 2114

col. 29, lines 51-53, col. 33, lines 29-39, and col. 34, lines 50-53];

- generating an error message if the values of the variables are found to not be valid or to be invalid [col. 14, lines 50-51].

5. Claims 24, 25, and 27 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

6. Claims 1-21, and 28 are allowed over the prior arts of record.

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a).**

**A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE TO THIS FINAL ACTION IS SET TO EXPIRE THREE MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS ACTION. IN THE EVENT A FIRST RESPONSE IS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE MAILING DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION AND THE ADVISORY ACTION IS NOT MAILED UNTIL AFTER THE END OF THE THREE-MONTH SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD, THEN THE SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD WILL EXPIRE ON THE DATE THE ADVISORY ACTION IS MAILED, AND ANY EXTENSION FEE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) WILL BE CALCULATED FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THE ADVISORY ACTION. IN NO EVENT WILL THE STATUTORY PERIOD FOR RESPONSE EXPIRE LATER THAN SIX MONTHS FROM THE DATE OF THIS FINAL ACTION.**



Art Unit: 2114

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dieu-Minh Le whose telephone number is (571) 272-3660. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Thursday from 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Beausoliel can be reached on (571) 272-3645.

The Tech Center 2100 phone number is (571) 272-2100.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



DIEU-MINH THAI LE  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
ART UNIT 2114

DML  
11/10/04